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Statistical Analysis and NIE's : ONE and OR-R

9 October 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Mr. Edward R. Dewey - Cycles Analysis

1. Members of the Board and O/NE staff, and representatives of O/NE, met on 7 October with Mr. Edward R. Dewey, head of the Foundation for the Study of Cycles, in order to appraise the possible utility of Mr. Dewey's work and methods for intelligence analysis.

2. Results were negative. Mr. Dewey's approach is to collect statistical time series on all subjects and break them down into component periodic waves of various lengths and amplitudes. (Mathematicians have long known that any succession of numbers whatever can be resolved into some combination of cyclical movements.) Mr. Dewey does not seek to explain any periodicities found. Nor does he claim any predictive value for the work he has done so far, on series relevant to intelligence purposes. His researches have been confined essentially to US series.

SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates

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See also ONE subject file on
"DD/CI"

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